

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A chewing gum base comprising:
 - a) ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate with a molecular weight ranging between about 100,000 and about 600,000 daltons and having a concentration greater than 10% by weight of the chewing gum base,
wherein the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate functions to increase the cohesion of the gum base;
 - b) a plasticizer;
 - c) and a filler.
2. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of triacetin, acetylated mono- and di- and triglycerides of short chain fatty acids, acetylated mono- and di- and triglycerides of medium chain fatty acids, acetylated monoglycerides of long chain fatty acids, methyl ester of rosin, low molecular weight PVAc and combinations thereof.
3. (Currently amended) The chewing gum composition of claim 1 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinyl acetate is present in an amount ranging ~~from 4%~~ up to about 90% by weight of the gum base.
4. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said plasticizer is present in an amount ranging from 1 % to about 60% by weight of said gum base.
5. (Previously presented) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said filler is selected from the group consisting of precipitated calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, ground limestone, magnesium silicate, aluminum silicate, clay, alumina, talc, titanium oxide, mono-, di- and tricalcium phosphate, silica, ethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, organic powders, polystyrene, polyethylene, oat fiber, wood fiber, apple fiber, zein, gluten, gliadin, casein and combinations thereof.

6. (Currently amended) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said filler is present in an amount ranging from about 1% to about 60% by weight of said gum base.

7. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of triglycerides of non-hydrogenated, partially hydrogenated and fully hydrogenated cottonseed oil, soybean oil, palm oil, palm kernel oil, coconut oil, safflower oil, tallow oil, cocoa butter, medium chained triglycerides, unsaturated oils, monoglycerides, diglycerides, acetylated monoglycerides, distilled mono- and di- glycerides and combinations thereof.

8. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said chewing gum base further comprises an emulsifier.

9. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 8 wherein said emulsifier is present in an amount up to about 60% by weight of said chewing gum base.

10. (Currently amended) The chewing gum base of claim 8 wherein said emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of glycerol mono and distearate, lecithin, mono and di- glycerides of fatty acids, triacetin, acetylated monoglyceride, polyglycerol esters, glycerol triacetate and carbohydrate polyesters, sucrose esters, sugar fatty acid ester, sucrose stearate ester, non-ionic surfactants ~~or~~ and combinations thereof.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said chewing gum base further comprises a polyvinylacetate of a molecular weight ranging from about 2,000 to 99,000 daltons.

13. (Previously presented) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate is present in an amount of 15%-65% by weight of said chewing gum base.

14. (Previously presented) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate is present in an amount of 10%-30% by weight of said chewing gum base.

15. (Previously presented) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said plasticizer is present in an amount an amount of 10%-50% by weight of said chewing gum base.

16. (Previously presented) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said filler is present in an amount of 1%-30% by weight of said chewing gum base.

17. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said chewing gum base further comprises a low molecular weight PVAc ranging from 2,000 to 20,000 daltons.

18. (Original) The chewing gum base of claim 17 wherein said low molecular weight PVAc is present in an amount up to about 50% by weight of said chewing gum base.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The chewing gum base of claim 24 1 wherein said high molecular weight PVAc is present in an amount up to about 50% by weight of said chewing gum base.

23. (Currently amended) A chewing gum composition ~~made of~~ comprising flavor, sweetener and a chewing gum base, the chewing gum base comprising:

a) ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate with a molecular weight ranging between about 100,000 and about 600,000 daltons and having a concentration greater than 10% by weight of the chewing gum base,

wherein the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate functions to increase the cohesion of the gum base;

b) a plasticizer;

c) and a filler.

24. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of triacetin, acetylated mono- and di- and triglycerides of short chain fatty acids, acetylated mono- and di- and triglycerides of medium chain fatty acids, acetylated monoglycerides of long chain fatty acids, methyl ester of rosin, low molecular weight PVAc and combinations thereof.

25. (Currently amended) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinyl acetate is present in an amount ranging from ~~1%~~ up to about 90% by weight of the gum base.

26. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said plasticizer is present in an amount ranging from 1% to about 60% by weight of said gum base.

27. (Previously presented) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said filler is selected from the group consisting of precipitated calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, ground limestone, magnesium silicate, aluminum silicate, clay, alumina, talc, titanium oxide, mono-, di- and tricalcium phosphate, silica, ethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, organic powders, polystyrene, polyethylene, oat fiber, wood fiber, apple fiber, zein, gluten, gliadin, casein and combinations thereof.

28. (Currently amended) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said filler is present in an amount ranging from about 1% to about 60% by weight of said gum base.

29. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of triglycerides of non-hydrogenated, partially hydrogenated and fully hydrogenated cottonseed oil, soybean oil, palm oil, palm kernel oil, coconut oil, safflower oil, tallow oil, cocoa butter, medium chained triglycerides, unsaturated oils, monoglycerides, diglycerides, acetylated monoglycerides, distilled mono- and di- glycerides and lecithin and combinations thereof.

30. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said chewing gum base contains an emulsifier.

31. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 30 wherein said emulsifier is present in an amount up to about 60% by weight of said chewing gum base.

32. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 30 wherein said emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of glycerol mono and distearate, lecithin, mono and di-glycerides of fatty acids, triacetin, acetylated monoglyceride, polyglycerol esters, glycerol triacetate and carbohydrate polyesters, sucrose esters, sugar esters of fatty acids, sucrose stearate ester, non-ionic surfactants or combinations thereof.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said chewing gum base further comprises a polyvinylacetate of a molecular weight ranging from about 2,000 to 99,000 daltons.

35. (Previously presented) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate is present in an amount of 15%-65% by weight of said chewing gum base.

36. (Previously presented) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate is present in an amount of 10%-30% by weight of said chewing gum base.

37. (Previously presented) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said plasticizer is present in an amount of 10%-50% by weight of said chewing gum base.

38. (Previously presented) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said filler is present in an amount of 1%-30% by weight of said chewing gum base.

39. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein said chewing gum base further comprises a low molecular weight PVAc ranging from 2,000 to 20,000 daltons.

40. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 39 wherein said low molecular weight PVAc is present in an amount up to about 50% by weight of said chewing gum base.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Original) The chewing gum composition of claim 23 wherein after being chewed a chewing gum cud remains which is easily removable from indoor and outdoor surfaces.

46. (Currently amended) A chewing gum base comprising:

a) ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate with a molecular weight ranging between about 150,000 to about 300,000 daltons and having a concentration greater than 10% by weight of the chewing gum base,

wherein the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate functions to increase the cohesion of the gum base;

b) a plasticizer;

c) and a filler.

47. (New) A chewing gum base having high cohesiveness comprising:

a) ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate with molecular weight ranging between about 100,000 to about 600,000 daltons and ranging from about 15 % to about 65% by weight of the chewing gum base,

wherein the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate functions to increase the cohesion of the gum base;

b) a plasticizer ranging from about 10 % to about 50% by weight of the chewing gum base;

c) and a filler ranging from about 1 % to about 30% by weight of the chewing gum base.

48. (New) The chewing gum base of claim 47 wherein the gum base comprises about 65% ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate, about 25% plasticizer, about 5% filler, and further comprises about 5% emulsifier.

49. (New) The chewing gum base of claim 47 wherein the gum base comprises about 60% ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate, about 30% plasticizer, about 5% filler, and further comprises about 5% emulsifier.

50. (New) The chewing gum base of claim 47 wherein the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate comprises a molecular weight ranging between about 150,000 to about 300,000 daltons.

51. (New) The chewing gum base of claim 47 consisting essentially of the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate, the plasticizer, the filler, and an emulsifier.